

Fall Issue

# Femmes d'Esprit

CNR Honors Newsletter • October 1996



**Femmes  
wins one  
of two  
prizes for  
the  
Best  
National  
Honors  
Newsletter  
Contest**

***The Voice of The Honors Program***

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**Deadline for  
Next Issue:  
Dec 1, 1996**

## Message from the Editor

Welcome back Honors Women:

October is here and it seems like November already. We have managed to provide a variety of stories related to you as Honors students and highlight your fabulous achievements as always. Unfortunately most of you are not telling us your accomplishments, so please brag to us about the things you do; we don't mind. Since this is the premier issue for the fall semester, we have tried to make *Femmes* more enjoyable to read (although I hear some of you do not even read *Femmes*), by enhancing the cover, stories, and graphics. Oh! And just in case you have not heard (see below), *Femmes d'Esprit* has won one of the top two prizes in the NCHC National Newsletter Contest. At the San Francisco Conference we will find out which prize, but until then I have nothing but the strictest confidence in what our baby is able to do and has done: represent us Honors women to the fullest.

## Femmes Wins National Award

Dear Dr. Raia,

Congratulations! Your Honors newsletter has won one of the top two places (prizes) in the National Collegiate Honors Council Publication Board's National Honors Newsletter Contest. You will find out which place you won at the national conference in San Francisco.

The prizes will be announced at the banquet. (The money is nominal, probably \$50, but you do have fame and glory and comments from the Publications Board about what a fine job you are doing!) Please plan to have a representative present at the banquet if possible.

Please let me know immediately if no one from your school can be at the nationals. There will be a newsletter session at the national conference. All the entries will be displayed, and the winners will be discussed.

You have done a fine job, and we are glad to celebrate this aspect of excellence in Honors at the national level.

Sincerely,



Dr. Connie K. Hood,  
Director, Honors Program,  
Tennessee Technological University  
for the National Collegiate Honors Council Publications  
Board.



Junior **Kelley Allen** and Sophomore **Joy Hohnstine** have recently had their play "Breaking the Silence of the Past: Women in Antiquity" published in the **Women's Classical Caucus** newsletter dated Spring 1996.

Over the summer, **Beckie Anderson** worked as an arts & crafts instructor at the YMCA Greenkill Day Camp in Brookfield, CT and has already been asked by the Regional YMCA of Western Connecticut to head up their drama camp next summer.

Senior, **Shiba Russell** attended the **Women's College Coalition** conference at the White House, September 16 & 17, with President Sr. Dorothy Ann Kelly. The conference focused on an "At the Table Discussion," where

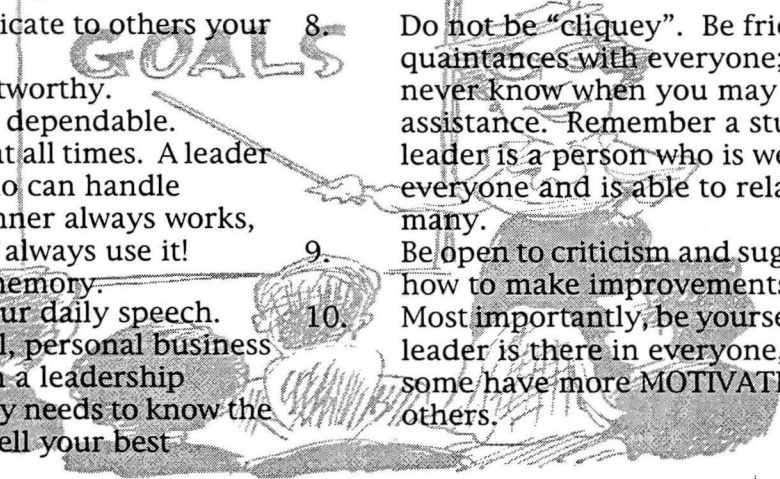
many departments within the White House were represented by tables; Shiba sat at the Education table. Afterwards all recommendations from each table were formally presented to the Chief Executive Officer to the President of the United States.

Senior **Evangelina C. Romero** has been offered a full time staff position upon graduation by the Manhattan based real estate firm, **Greenthal & Co**, which is one of the five biggest real estate firms in the country.

Congratulations to Junior **Christina Hamilton** and Sophomore **Jennifer Delemus** who have been hired by Student Life as Resident Assistants for the 1996-97 school year.

## Effective Leadership Skills: Achievement Through the Individual

*Shiba Russell*

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1. Be able to communicate to others your needs and goals.
  2. Be honest and trustworthy.
  3. Be responsible and dependable.
  4. Remain organized at all times. A leader is an individual who can handle many tasks. A planner always works, but make sure you always use it!
  5. Maintain a sharp memory.
  6. Maintain tact in your daily speech.
  7. Keep your personal, personal business to yourself when in a leadership role. Not everybody needs to know the things you would tell your best friend.
  8. Do not be "cliquey". Be friends/acquaintances with everyone; you never know when you may need their assistance. Remember a student leader is a person who is well-liked by everyone and is able to relate to many.
  9. Be open to criticism and suggestions on how to make improvements.
  10. Most importantly, be yourself! The true leader is there in everyone, but some have more MOTIVATION than others.



We are your friendly neighborhood Honors students speaking. We want to share with you some of our survival tips which we have learned during our academic sojourn at CNR.

#1 New Rochelle is more exciting than it looks!! There is more to life than bars, the diner and school; go to all the garage sales, meet the neighbors! If you can't find a job after graduation, you can always go into business as an antique dealer selling all the treasures you find in the castoffs of New Rochelle. Mighty Mouse was born here, Thomas Paine, Norman Rockwell, Dick Van Dyke and silent movie stars lived here. Even CNR adds to the rich legacy of New Rochelle; what a fine upstanding institution. Be proud!!

#2 New York City is only 30 minutes away! Make use of it. It's not as scary as you've heard. There are lots of **free events**. Read the *Voice*, it's free too! You may never again be living so close to funky museums, major fringe benefit internships, live theater, music and weird people. You may not appreciate it now, but someday you will tell your grandkids about how you went to the M.O.M.A.,

worked for Disney, and saw Julie Andrews, Dave Matthews and Nikki, (a very nice Greek hot dog vendor outside of Grand Central) all in the same day.

#3 **CHALLENGE YOURSELF!** Don't be lazy. Take 19 credits (if the Dean will allow you) and audit all the classes you can. **AUDIT, AUDIT, AUDIT!!!** Especially those classes which you would love to take but are too weird; let your curiosity take over. If you are a business major, sit in on an Art or Physics class. You won't have to do the homework or projects unless you want to. Besides, the only thing you'll be doing in your room at 11 a.m. is sleeping! **Take classes at different schools** such as Iona, NYU, or Juilliard. Life is a perpetual classroom. But most of all have fun!

Sincerely,

*Tammy Rose & Kelley Allen*

P.S. If you have any questions or just want to hear our many weird stories of CNR or NYC, stop by our room (Maura 401) if you can make it up the stairs!





# Weee're



# Heeere!!!

Jessica LaBella

Weee're heeere!!! We, being the freshman class of 2000, have finally arrived on the campus of CNR. The residents arrived on August 28. From there, we shared in the beguiling experience of orientation. Finally, after the infamous trip to Camp Mohawk (come on, it wasn't as bad as we expected, right girls?) we got settled into classes. As Honors students, most of us were able to partake in the wonderful adventures of **Cultural Legacies**, taught by Dr. Raia, and **Honors Writing: On Nature**, taught by Professor Kraman. We all seem to have adjusted to our new environment.

Many of us had great expectations before arriving at CNR, and they were not all good. One freshman, Katie Stemmler, thought she would see more cliques, due to the all women environment. Dawn Phillips worried about the heavy work load. One honors freshman said she expected two things from CNR - to love it once she was settled, "and to get everything I wanted - except guys." As for myself, I expected to make many friends right away due to the small size of the school.

So what happened to our expectations? Dawn found that although we are busy, she has more free time than she realized she would.

Everyone has made great friends—which is easy in our new environment. Especially, the Honors class of 2000! We seem to have created a **special bond with each other**. How could we not, considering all that we have been through together? We've gone over our "basic bio info" a zillion times, and except for a few minor mishaps (several students have been locked out of their rooms), everything seems swell.

Why did we choose CNR, you wonder? Personally, I liked the small size, and Katie agrees, "I wanted to know all of my teachers' names and have them know mine—that is a big asset."

Who are we? I know you all have seen us wandering around. There are two commuters in the fresh Honors group: myself (Jess), and Mirjana Celic (Midi). The women who reside in Brescia are: Kerida Barnes, Diane Kenski, and Jaclyn Martinez; Bonita London, Katie Stemmler, Amy Hammel, and Keisha Smith live in Maura, while the rest, Kristina Kitkas, Kelly Larkin, Jennifer Miller, Dawn Phillips and Gloria Romero live in Ursula. Stop by and say hello!

## PICKLES

Brian Crane



# Nature is Not Just for the Birds

Brenda I. Kibler

If I say, “**Natural History Interpretation**,” what do you think of? Possibly someone translating one language into another. What exactly does “Natural history” conjure up in your mind-other than “The Museum of . . .?”

Well, I spent my summer as an intern at the **Adirondack Park Visitor Interpretive Center** as a **Naturalist/Natural History Interpreter**. I worked at the Visitor Center in **Newcomb, NY**, which is in the center and heart of the 6 million acre Adirondack Park. This park is 2.5 times the area of Yellowstone National Park, roughly the same size as the state of New Hampshire.

As a Naturalist I designed guided trail walks. I also performed various self-designed walks on a daily basis. These were on anything from wildflowers to birds. I also led Night Hikes (yes-sometimes I got scared) and ran campfire activities at the local Department of Environmental Conservation Campground. I experienced the extreme enjoyment of helping children search for frogs and salamanders and had the opportunity to teach them all about reptiles and amphibians. **I even had my photo put on the front page of the Hamilton County News newspaper!** It was such an enjoyable summer.



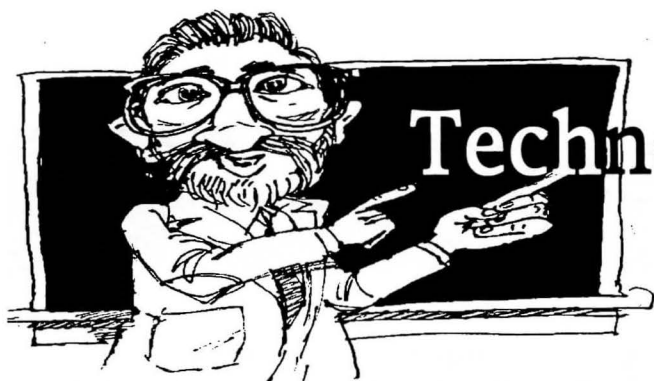
I lived in bunkhouses with other college students - most of whom were from **SUNY - ESF (Environmental Science and Forestry)**. I met some wonderful people, attended quite a few lectures on environmental and biological topics, and learned an astonishing amount about **botany, birds, mammals, telemetry and canoeing**. (I also tipped a canoe with a friend and me still in it - oops!)

I am so thankful to have had such an experience. I was thrown into a 2 week course (before my job as a Naturalist began) with 8 other students, all of whom attended **SUNY-ESF** and had an obvious advantage over me due to the courses they had taken there. But I worked hard, listened well, and made sure I showed them what I was made of. Besides I couldn't let them think that **SUNY-ESF** was any better than **CNR** at giving their students a good, solid background in science. I believe I did my job (Go **CNR**!)

So, that's how I spent my summer vacation. I left out bits and pieces - like how I survived without a TV all summer, but none of that mattered because I was able to see a family of river otters at play, and I canoed alongside a pair of loons. Definitely a summer to remember!

## Did You Know That . . . ?

- One in 10 female college students suffer from bulimia nervosa?
- Seventy Percent of normal weight women want to weigh less?
- The number one magic wish for girls 11 to 17 is to be thinner?



Denise Kenski

# Technosphere

Wonder  
Drug of  
the 90's?

This summer did not look too hopeful in May. All the summer programs I applied to had denied me and I was starting to see my summer filled with more classes. Finally, I called **Pharmaceutical Discovery Corporation (PDC)**, and said, "Hi. I'm looking for an internship. Do you have any?" They said, "Yes. Come on in." So I did.

The commute to work each day was a two hour bus ride to Elmsford. The building didn't look like any major research took place inside. In fact, all it was was brown and white. But upstairs on the fifth floor was the infamous lab. Now, the fifth floor was pretty special because you needed a key card to get in and only PDC people got these precious commodities. The lab was everything I hoped for: chemicals, big glassware, machines that did weird analyses of molecules.

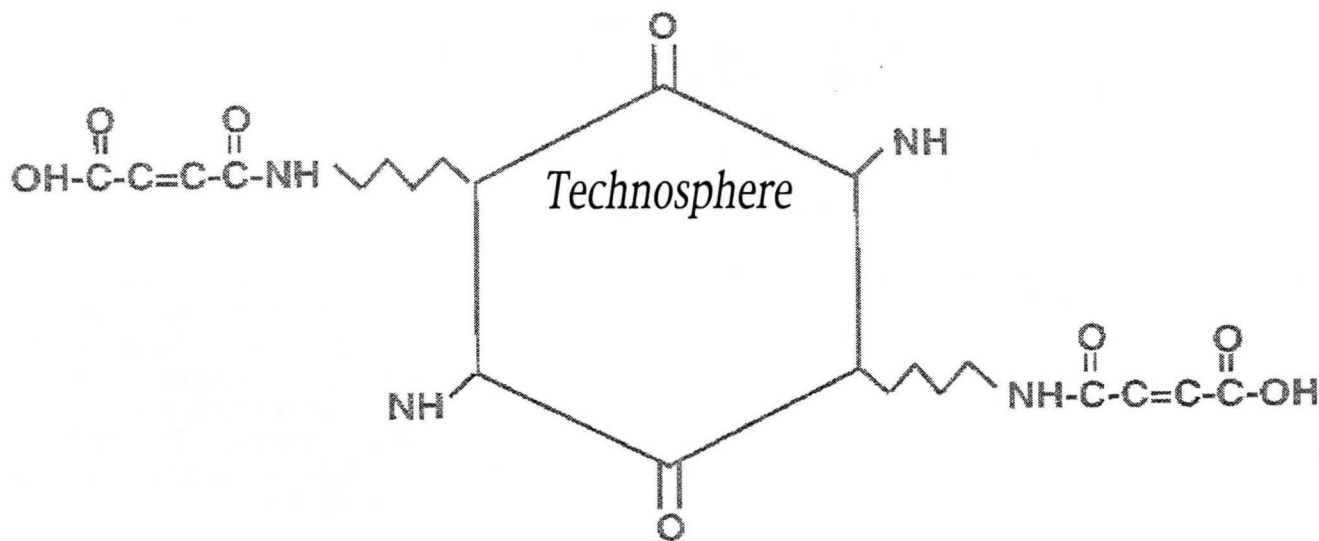
My research started with **Technosphere**, a diketopiperazine that the medium drugs are carried in. When Technosphere is mixed with other drugs (usually proteins), such as insulin or calcitonin, the

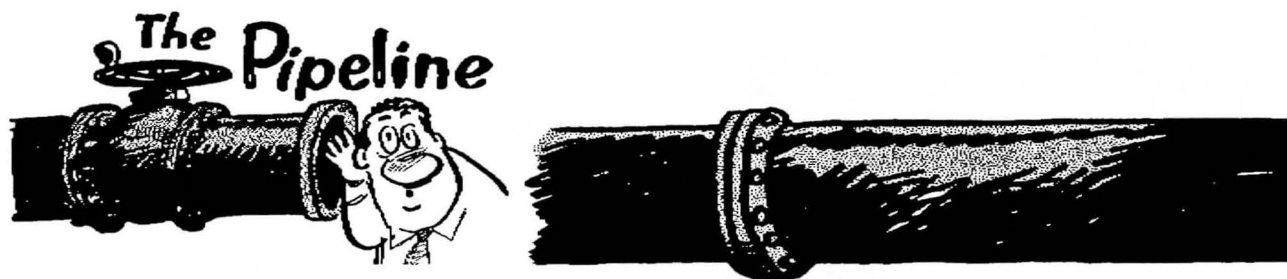
Technosphere wraps around the drug creating a spherical particle. This particle can then be inhaled into the lungs and absorbed into the bloodstream. The benefit is that there are no needles or painful treatments.

The research I conducted was to see how Technosphere combined with high molecular weight proteins. I had to first combine the Technosphere and the drug, then run a series of tests to confirm that the protein had still maintained its weight and structure. The results were great! The drug managed to load very well into the Technosphere and maintained its structure.

This internship was a lot of fun and confirmed my decision to pursue research upon graduation. If you are interested, they welcome all science and math students. Give me a ring at x2617 and I'll give you all the details.

By the way, **don't look for Technosphere as the wonder drug of the '90's**. It is still not FDA approved and is still being worked on chemically. But hey, one day, you could be saved by a PDC molecule.





Welcome **Suji Thamarathu**, a sophomore who has recently joined the Honors Program.

Welcome back **Shirley Gharbin**! She has just returned from a leave of absence.

On **October 24, 1996** at 7:30 pm, Gill Library is sponsoring a literary discussion to be held in the Alumnae room. It will focus on the short story with author **David Charney**. Mr. Charney's published works include magazine articles, short stories, a book of non-fiction and several historical novels. His novels have been published in the United States and England and have been translated into German, Dutch, and Russian. If you would like more information contact Phyllis Stephens in the library.

**Andreea Petric** has transferred to **Columbia University** to major in astrophysics. We wish her the best of luck. If anyone is interested in obtaining her address, stop by Dr. Raia's office.

**Attention Juniors:** The **Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation** is announcing its 1996-97 scholarship awards. Up to 85 Truman Scholarships will be awarded to junior-level students on the basis of merit. The nominating Truman Committee is seeking students with extensive records of public and community service, who are committed to careers in government or the public sector, and have leadership potential and possess intellectual and analytical abilities. The scholarship awards up to \$30,000 to each Truman Scholar. See Dr. Raia for materials and the deadline date.

CNR's Fall Musical: "**Little Shop of Horrors**" opens on November 8 and plays until November 17, 1996. **Junior Rebecca Anderson** will be playing the part of "The Plant" and Mrs. Mushnick. Please come and support Props and Paint.

We would also like to welcome back **Rebecca Eller** from a recent leave of absence in which she traveled to Texas and California. She will be returning to CNR as a full-time student in January.

We recently received a letter from **Katie Williams** and a postcard from **Wen Chen**. They say hello and best wishes to all.

Congratulations to alum, **Eleanor Fallon** ('96) who did an excellent job curating the children's book illustration exhibit in the Castle Gallery.

On October 17th, the Honors Program will be co-sponsoring a movie trip to see "**The Associate**" at the Cross County Movieplex. Only 50 tickets are available. Please see Dr. Raia to sign up.

Snap to Alum **Stephanie Bell** ('96) who has recently been hired by **Conde Nast Publications** as the Assistant to the Director of Information & Technology.

**The Ellie Wiesel Foundation** is sponsoring an **Ethics Essay Contest** with 5 prizes (\$5,000, \$2,500, \$1,500 and 2 \$500) for winning essays of 3,000-4,000 words on one of three themes: 1) an ethical essay based on personal experience, 2) "Why are we here?" How are we to meet our ethical obligations?, 3) Reflect on an ethical aspect of a literary text. Juniors and Seniors may apply; the deadline is January 17, 1997. Dr. Raia has further information and applications.

**The National Library of Poetry** has announced that \$48,000 in prizes will be awarded this year to over 250 poets in the North American Open Poetry Contest. To enter, send one original poem, any subject and any style to: The National Library Poetry, 1 Poetry Plaza, Suite 1989, Owings Mills, MD 21117-6282. The deadline is October 31, 1996.





## Shattering False Images, Shaping A New Vision of Latinas

*Evangelina C. Romero*

**"Por fin!"** cried Latin American members of the CNR community when they returned to campus this fall and discovered that the college was finally recognizing Latin American History Month. CNR sponsored a series of informative, educational and entertaining events geared towards "Shattering False Images, [and] Shaping a New Vision" of Latin Americans in the United States.

The celebration began with the inspirational words of **Dr. Maira Ramirez**, the Executive Director of International PACE. She informed the audience in the opening ceremony of her personal struggles and triumphs as an American woman of Hispanic heritage. She shared with everyone a story from her early childhood that dealt with the language issue. Like many children from diverse cultures in the United States, Dr. Ramirez did not know English when she entered school. She did learn English and has proceeded to become one of the most influential and powerful women in the government. She recognizes that life presents hurdles that seem gigantic and are often painful. This, she simply stated, was a part of life that everyone, Hispanic or not, had to endure in order to proceed to the wonderful "stepping stones" that add to the development of a human being.

Dr. Ramirez ordered her attentive audience to become role models to the youth of America. Her message was also one of continuing pride and celebration of the Hispanic culture. It was one full of beautiful and diverse traditions, linguistic dialects and age-old customs. Instead of Latin Americans attempting to assimilate into society and intentionally or unintentionally leaving behind what is part of them and their family history, they should bring it with them throughout their entire lives and add to the richness of American culture.

The second event of Latin American History Month entitled **"Latinas in the Work Force,"** focused on the achievements of Hispanic women in their chosen professions. The panelists came from different backgrounds and nationalities. **Nevie Merced**, a CNR alumna of Puerto Rican Decent and the Latina Social Worker in the Gerontological Department at the New Rochelle Medical Center spoke of her experiences as a "Hispanic" in her field. Other panelists were **Vanessa Santana**, an artist; **Fabienne Serignes**, Editor and Publisher of **MIA Going For Ours** a new magazine catering to Latinas in the United States; **Michelle Toro**, Night Life columnist for MIA (and daughter of Prof. Nilda Hernandez); and **Amparo Silva**, Asst. Director of Admission for Syracuse University and international political activist. All women told of the stereotypes they overcame in their lives in either starting a magazine, or becoming an active and effective voice in international relations. The most consistent theme in the discussion was that of overcoming stereotypes that can have a profound social and emotional effect on the individual

*(continued on pg.18)*

### *Diana Robles*

As a Latina, I am pleased to see the College's efforts in uniting CNR in celebration of Latino culture from September 15 through October 15. The effort is greatly appreciated and I only hope that students will attend the events. As the former President of LAWS, I realize it is an arduous task to motivate Latinas to participate. It is also difficult to attract the interest of non-Latinos to join us in our commemoration. However, this is an issue that all organizations on campus encounter. I only hope that the College will continue to celebrate "nuestra cultura."

# NCHC Honors Semester

Jenna Sunderland

The College of New Rochelle is proud to be the first small, women's college to host a **National Collegiate Honors Council Honors Semester**. As a representative of CNR, I am proud to be a participant.

Collectively known as "**Those Honors People**," the group of 23 women and six men who are often seen traveling in packs throughout campus, are actually comprised of Honors students from all over the country living here at CNR, experiencing a lifetime under the semester title "**Media and Image: Issues of Gender and Work**."

Since arriving on campus September 3, the group has been involved in a whirlwind of activities in an attempt to become oriented to New York City and its surroundings. Tours of New Rochelle, the New York City Public Library, the United Nations and exploration of various areas of Manhattan filled the first week and offered a taste of what the city had to offer.

In addition to taking in some "only-in-New-York-City" events (Broadway shows, museums and Yankees games), much time has also been put into selection of and working at various intern sites in Manhattan and surrounding communities. Honors Semester students can be found putting their creativity to work at MTV, CNN, NBC, CBS, Gray Advertising, Putnam Berkley Publishing, Nickelodeon and a variety of other companies in

the many fields of communications.

All this, and classes too, make for quite a hectic schedule! Honors Semester seminars are interdisciplinary, and are focused around the Semester's central theme, which encourages students to think in new and innovative ways.

Class offerings for the Semester include: **Ambition, Conspiracy, Betrayal and Triumph: Popular Images of the Workplace; Interrogating Identity: Representation, Race, Gender Sexuality; Theoretical Seminar: The Lenses of Gender; Internship and Integrating Seminar: Communication, Work,**



**and Gender; Law and the Contemporary Workplace; and Word and Image.** In addition, each student is involved in a Directed Study, a semester-long project on a topic of their choice that encompasses various aspects of the Semester.

While the Semester is young yet, there is a great deal of work to be done and **time is flying by so fast, I can hardly believe it!** As the Semester's activities and projects are in progress for Honor Semester participants, those same activities and projects are also in progress for CNR students. The Honors Semester is now a part of the CNR community, as are you, so take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to immerse yourself in something new and exciting.

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## Continued. . . . Shattering False Images

woman and on the Latin community as a whole. Stereotypes portraying Latinas as marriage directed women focusing solely on the home and having welfare supported babies was one of the most annoying and frustrating topics discussed. Yes, some young Latinas do fit into the stereotype but so do countless other women from other cultures. There was an unofficial consensus that this particular stereotype damaged the morale of young Latin American women who have potential. They all stated that instead of urging their daugh-

ters to get married young, families have always insisted that their children get a quality education in order to enrich their lives.

Latin American History Month at the College of New Rochelle has been a celebration of culture, heritage, language, and achievement of Hispanics all over the United States rather than a continued focus on the false images held by society. It reinforced the power of the Latin American voice in contemporary American society, politics, and economics. "**Que viva la tradicion!**" (Let the tradition live)!

# Oedipal Wrecks

Kelley L. Allen

America is becoming a nation filled with personal neuroses that are undermining our civil duties. In the article, "**Oedipal Wrecks**," E. Fuller Torrey analyzes how Sigmund Freud's ideology has diminished the "American Spirit."

**Freudianism** is everywhere we look. At one time Freud's psychoanalysis was to available only to the rich. Now it should be packaged as "McFreud" with a sign saying "**Over 10 Million Americans Served Every Year**".

If you remember from your Psych 101 class, Freud's ideology stems from the belief that all the neuroses you have originate from some part of your unfulfilled childhood. The only panacea for this blast from the past is to regress back into childhood and mentally live through these memories. (As for myself, once is enough). Through your exciting adventure on your therapist's couch, you will encounter many fierce demons such as the doll you never got for Christmas or the spanking you received for spray painting the gardenias in the garden pink and blue. All by the way, concerned your mother.

Though Freud's theories are somewhat illogical, they do have a common basis. Freud believed that as human beings, our actions and reactions in this life are directly influenced by forces that we cannot control; We are not to blame for the misfortunes that occur to us. Even the most hardened of criminals are sensitive souls who are just misunderstood.

In his defense, Freud was giving the less fortunate a chance. People became more caring towards their fellow man and more introspective of themselves. This is fine and dandy and the humanists must be ecstatic, but Freudian psychology has wreaked havoc on the justice system. A study shows that in the years 1965 to 1976, the number of acquittals due to reasons of insanity had increased five-fold. Do we extend the privileges of equality to the mentally ill and criminals at a sacrifice to our

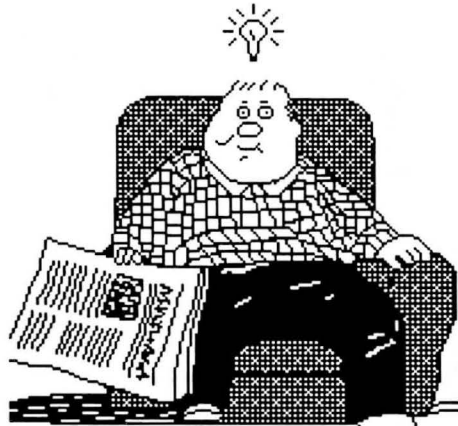
own personal liberties?

Though Freud has unsettled the legal system quite a bit, his theories have rattled more than just that. Since Freud's theories revolve around the assumption "it's not your fault," American culture has validated the idea that it is all right not to take responsibility for your own actions. **If something goes wrong, just blame it on someone else.**

This leads us to another point. Freud states that the only way to recover from maybe your torrid childhood experiences is through self reflection; especially in this age of "**New Consciousness**," where American culture caters to the self indulgence of the American consumer. As people become more introverted and self-searching, they tend to forget their civil duties.

What makes this more tragic is the fact that despite all the tests, experiments, surveys and laboratory procedures, Freud's theories are just that - theories. Never has there been substantial evidence that Freud's psychoanalysis actually works. Torrey states, "Freud himself virtually ignored patients with serious mental illnesses, writing, 'I do not like these patients'."

Therefore, when Aristotle said "**Man is a political creature**," Freud would have disagreed. Due to Freud's idea that one finds worth in oneself and not through the things one does, Freud has undermined the social structure of this nation by advocating passive introspection over civic-minded active participation. Perhaps we should look more into the Gestalt therapies of psychology which practice a more communal interaction and loud participation in a group setting. If we do not try to change the effects of Freudianism, our nation may "slip" into a state of political and social isolation. If this happens, Alexis de Tocqueville's prediction that we will confine ourselves within "the solitude of our own heart" will come to be.





# Committee

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Holiday Party: Chair, *Roberta Thomas*.

The committee is hard at work trying to prepare this year's holiday party. We want all Honors students, including Honors Semester students, to have a good time. Our first meeting was held on Friday, September 27. The first order of business was to determine the date, time, and location of the **Christmas party**. The party was originally scheduled for **December 10, 1996 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.** However, many students found the time of the meeting conflicted with their schedules. In order to insure everyone's attendance, we have put a notice into everyone's mailbox regarding their time preference. The time and place will be announced after we have received responses. However, the date of the party will not be changed, so mark your calendars for **December 10!**

Activities: Co-chairs *Kulsoom Butt, Roberta Thomas, and Jaclyn Martinez*.

The Honors Activities committee has three goals for this year—fundraising, planning activities and community service. Our kickoff event, **"Movie Fest and Sundaes"**, counted as an activity and a fund-raiser. As for future events, a checklist has been put into everyone's mailbox. Each person can choose which activity and fund-raiser they will support. With everyone's cooperation we will be able to raise money and plan exciting activities. We also want to stay away from being seen as an "elite group" and interact with other campus organizations. Therefore, we have decided to affiliate with campus ministry and participate in different community services, such as the **soup kitchen, The Midnight Run, and**

**Make A Difference Day.** Our goals can and will be reached if everyone works together!

"Myths We Live By" Lecture Series: Chair, *Tara E. O'Neill*.

The "Myths We Live By" lecture series is off to an exciting start. Sr. Dorothy Ann Kelly, President of the College, spoke on **"Women in Action: The Myths versus Realities of Women's Meetings,"** October 10, 1996 from 12:35 - 1:50 p.m. in the Student Campus Center Room C. Thanks to the Committee members, all enjoyed delicious snacks. Another lecture is scheduled for the week of **February 14, 1997.**  
**S r . J o a n**

**Garvey, Director of Campus Ministry** is hosting a **panel discussion** entitled **"What I Did For Love,"** just in time for Valentine's Day. Remember, the lecture series can only be as good as your input allows it to be. Our meetings will generally be held on Monday evenings at 9:15 in Maura Hall, room 227. Look for posters advertising the next meeting date; all are welcome. If you have any questions or suggestions, contact the committee chair, *Tara E. O'Neill*.

Calendar Committee: Chair, *Denise Kenski*

I do the calendar, I am the committee. If you have anything you want to put on it, please leave it in my mailbox or give it to Dr. Raia. Thank you! You are all beautiful people. Love and hugs, Denise

The Women Studies Committee: Co-chairs, *Maria Coviello, Chia Lin Wu, Tara O'Neill*

The Women's Studies committee has begun yet







another event-filled year. Tara O'Neill has been working closely with **Sr. Dorothy Ann Kelly on the "Myths We Live By" lecture series**. Also, two additional events are scheduled. On **November 7**, we will be sponsoring a **"Women's Studies Dessert Drop In"** at 6:00 p.m. in the **Student Campus Center Room C**. The "drop in" will be an informal discussion by members of the committee about women's studies issues. Then on **November 14**, **Dr. Nancy-Elizabeth Fitch** will be presenting, **"Edna O'Brien and Her Irish Women,"** All are invited to come to both of these events. Please come join us!

Publicity Committee: Co-chairs, *Marie Lagana, Melissa Kenny*

Our committee has been hard at work. We have officially designed the flyers for "Myths We Live By" lecture series, and the Honors activity of "Movie Night". Upcoming projects include the Honors advisement and also training people on the computer.

Student History Book: Chair, *Brenda Kibler*

The student history book is now beginning to enter pictures from last semester's senior class. I have already met with Dr. Raia about the lay-out of the history book and what events should be included. If you have any photos, please drop them in Brenda's box so they may be placed in the history book's photo folder. All classes are urged to submit photos.

NCHC: Chair, *Alicia Concepcion*, Rep. to NCHC, *Sandy Schnaithman*

The NCHC committee is pleased to announce Alicia Concepcion as their new Chair. The committee is preparing for the **National Conference in San Francisco, October 30- November 3**. We will be participating in the **"Consultant's Lounge"** and **"the Idea Market."** We hope to have three students attend the conference, especially since *Femmes*

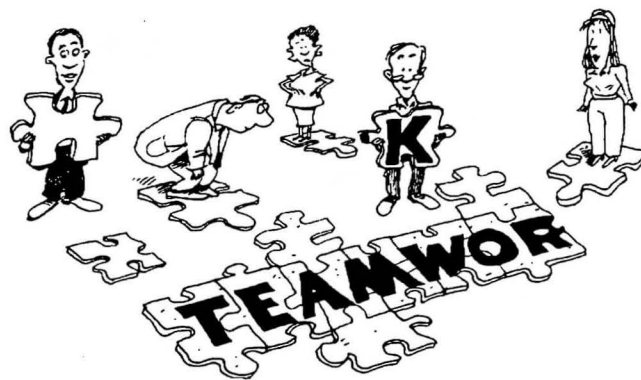
won the NCHC Newsletter Contest. After the National Conference we will be looking forward to receiving information on the North East Regional Conference in Portland, Maine.

Newsletter: Chair, *Shiba Russell*

*Femmes d'Esprit's* first meeting was held on October 1, in the Student Publications Office. The lay-out, copy-editing, and typing schedule was discussed as well as story ideas for the upcoming October issue (see attached). *Femmes* has great participation as always and is looking forward to its October release date. **Our Winter issue deadline date for articles and story ideas is December 1, 1996.** Thank you for all your support; kisses to all.

Freshman Orientation '96: Co-chairs, *Melissa Kenny, Joy Hohnstine, and Jenna Sunderland.*

The Freshman Orientation committee started planning activities for the Freshmen over the summer. When school started we had freshman socials, sophomore sister socials, a meeting with Dr. Raia, and a very interesting book discussion about Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. We tried to make the freshmen feel welcome and we also gave them important information about the Honors Program. All the sophomore sisters were instrumental in this process; we could not have done it without them.



# NYU Summer In London

Tammy Rose

6 weeks (and too much money)  
leaving the comfort of a final summer at home  
(as my mother's daughter in my small home-  
town)

A plane through time and place to  
a country's reputation of itself.  
"England" then-  
conscious of a past lived as a to-  
day

Dead Kings and Monuments  
feed tourists and tour guides  
(and their families).

The geography of time is set with  
certain perspective,  
mapped by reigns, plotted by the  
rich and their geniuses,  
planted with achievements and  
buildings  
as a fertile field (weeded of the  
lower class in histories).

I took classes, more than I was  
entitled to.

Brit Novel(ty), Shakespeare In  
Perf,

Mod Brit Drama, Brit Art and Ar-  
chitecture.

(I went on every field trip).

Blocks from Dickens, we lived  
in a SPACIOUS children's room,  
an old London townhouse,  
the English 4th floor (like Maura,  
the 5th)

Bathroom was one floor down; shower, in the  
basement.

Overlooking the nursery school for student  
parents,  
the **British Telecom Tower** (the 2nd ugliest in London)

Seagulls screeching with the sunrise  
(unnatural like motherless children, fatherless  
citizens)

University College in London's mascot is an old  
benefactor,  
still sitting in at meetings (a skeleton fleshed  
out with straw;  
an eternal position padded with money and  
tradition).

Our Shakespeare professor, (lectures for the  
Royal Shakespeare Company)

Full of wisdom, wit and gossip.

Wales with castles and coal

with bilingual roadsigns and delicate coastline  
A plane explodes across the ocean.

Ben Jonson's "The Devil's An Ass"  
(funnier than "The Comedy of Errors,"  
educated irreverence)

Scotland, Inverness, McDonalds  
and Burger King

Robbie Burns is THE Scottish poet,  
not one of many  
Drumnadrochit and Loch Ness  
(monstrous tourists)

Bed and no breakfast @ Mrs.  
MacBean's

in Dunsinane someone was watch-  
ing for our return  
from ruins of settlements never re-  
attempted

from hills forested so dense  
not even light found a path be-  
tween

cobwebs of branches and trunks  
holding them up  
and (seldom) patches of emptiness,  
graveyards of tree stumps.

Bringing Birnum wood to London,  
the 8 hour train back, we met a  
New Zealandish couple  
and a newspaper about an explo-  
sion in Atlanta.



Twenty minutes from theaters,

FREE museums, the Thames

American movie villains=leading roles at the  
RSC,

Shows: originally English or American  
Sondheim ("Little Night Music"),  
Shakespeare

("Rom & Jul", "Rich III", "Temp" etc.)

Fringe, LINES for "Phantom" and Final  
Project:

Monologue From "Coriolanus"

Packing a suitcase too heavy with books and  
other souvenirs

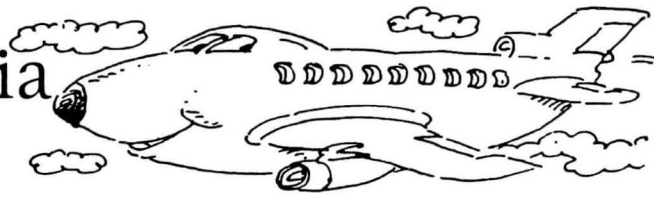
including the badge of a Londoner  
Yorkshire tourists asking for directions to  
**Leicester square**

and the respect of the RSC lecturer  
who had cried when I spoke to an American  
bomber to

respect his mother and homeland in a scene  
from **Shakespeare**.

# "Bonjour," dit Maria

Maria Cochrane



I spent the month of August studying abroad in France-not Paris, but **Tours**, a city in the **Loire River Valley**. I went to a school there to improve my French; I have been studying the language for seven years now. However, I truly began to understand and appreciate the beauty of the language by spending a month there, going to school every day and speaking French every night with my French family.

Every day I went to school from 8:45-12:15. I was taught grammar and pronunciation. Twice a week, from 2:00 to 3:15, I was in a class where the only goal was to improve our spoken vocabulary. Afterwards, I went home, and spoke French with my host family, which consisted of one woman. I loved every moment of my stay in Tours.

At the school, there were not many French people other than the professors and professional staff, because it is a school to teach French to non French-speaking persons. Therefore, I met a lot of people from many countries. For example, my temporary roommate in the French home lives in Mexico and most of the people in my class live in Asian countries. I now have friends in **Germany, England, Belgium, Kuwait, and Scotland**.

I did not just go to school in Tours. I also went to bars, and night clubs where I danced for hours (and I'm not even 21!). I also hung out during the days along the riverbank and in coffee and bread shops. I

even saw a castle on my last day in Tours. The school itself organized excursions to the surrounding castles, but there was always the option to go on your own. Sometimes, the host family will take you with them to the castles and other places in the area. They also fed me authentic French food which enabled me to see more of the French culture. Of course I could have stayed at the dorm, but I saw that the students did not really learn as much about the French culture as they could have if they had stayed with a family; I would not be as fluent in French now if I had stayed in the dorm. Almost everyone there speaks English, so if you live in the dorm the instinct is to speak your natural language. Because I stayed with a family, I was forced to speak and listen to French. I think for me it was most beneficial.

Also, while in France, I spent four days in Paris doing the whole sightseeing thing. My first thought when I saw the **Eiffel Tower** during the day was that it was ugly. However, at night it was beautiful. I also got to see the **Sacre-Coeur** and **Notre Dame** and many of the other places that we always see pictures of. I think that Notre Dame is the most beautiful cathedral I ever saw, even more so than the Sacre-Coeur.

For me, France was a great experience and I would recommend it to anyone who has the opportunity to go. It's just great!!!

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## Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road??

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Nietzsche: Because if you gaze too long across the road, the road gazes also across you.

Oliver North: National Security was at stake.

Albert Einstein: Whether the chicken crossed the road or the road crossed the chicken depends upon your frame of reference.

Ernest Hemingway: To die. In the rain.

## Voters Be Aware or BEWARE!!



Evangelina C. Romero  
Political Corner Editor

The election of the most powerful political figure who will lead the nation into the next century is fast approaching. New and old voters have been bombarded by the campaigns, supportive PACs and the media with biased information regarding the candidates' personal failures and administrative scandals. What there has not been much of a focus on is the issues that have taken a toll on everyday American lives from Maine to Texas. It is not only a presidential leadership concern, but one that very much reflects the role of the American Congress which underwent a "Republican revolution" in 1994.

For American college students, some of the important issues are: the future of federal financial support for higher education, employment opportunities, social security welfare reform and how all of this has affected the budget deficit. The numerous issues will have an adverse affect on all students, especially women.

Democrat and Republican politicians alike have recently taken serious steps to reduce the federal budget by 2002. A recent 1996 federal budget bill has called for a \$20 billion cut in federal spending. The portion that was most severely slashed was the 14% of the budget that financially supports domestic programs. The government, however, failed to reduce spending in defense, which is a good

portion of the U.S. federal budget. This shocked Americans all over the nation because with the end of the Cold War, many expected several military programs to be eliminated. The worst part is that last term, Congress allocated more money to the defense programs than was requested by military representatives.

In the continued effort to balance the budget in seven years, **Republicans demanded a 20% slash in federally supported**

**student loans.** It would have an accumulated savings of approximately \$5 billion over the seven year period. One

of the most hard hit areas would be a \$1 billion dollar savings from an over 65% reduction in the Clinton Administration's Direct Student Loan Program that lends money to college students under more appealing conditions than commercial institutions. Junior Kelly Allen stated "We really need the loans because today students support themselves. Without them, it would be like putting a financial noose around our necks!" Not only do the Republicans want to slash these programs but they also want to eliminate Clinton's **Americorps**, a program that has provides over 250,000 college grads with national service jobs.

Other popular themes for both the American people and the candidates are the shape of the economy and the availability of jobs. Although the







economy has relatively improved over the past four years, many still find themselves unemployed or under-employed. This might not be the end result of the government's mismanagement but instead of the harsh invisible hand of the market. In either case, some young Americans do find themselves and their families better off than they were four years ago. Senior **Tamara Rose** stated that her family's economic standing "has improved since Clinton has been in office." Many do share that view but unfortunately others are continuing to hold more than two jobs just to make ends meet and put their children through school.

There are other issues that American voters need to become aware of this election year before casting their vote in the ballot box this November. Governmental action on affirmative action, health care, social security, and the minimum wage affect their everyday lives directly. Elections and issues are too important to ignore or be left for others to deal with. The only real defense that the American public has against members of the government, big business and interest groups is their vote.

## Volunteering for the Democratic Campaign

*Christina Hamilton*

As the November election approaches, I feel this desire to volunteer for the political cause of my choice-the Democratic party. On September 27, 1996, I visited the **Westchester County Headquarters** to volunteer my time and energy.

Michael, a college student who is the office manager, gave us a brief tour of the facilities. The office is located in an old building on a busy White Plains street. To fully comprehend how little money they have, I give the example of their two fax machines. Only one sends correctly and the other one only receives faxes properly.

After the five minute grand tour, we began working. The group (all five of us) were separated. **Tara O'Neill** and **Evangelina Romero** put their telemarketing skills to work on an upcoming fundraising dinner for the **Westchester Democratic Committee** for the **Clinton/Gore** campaign. **Jennifer Bassett**, myself and one other student stuffed envelopes for a local candidate, while engaging in stimulating political conversation.

For all of our work we received posters, stickers, buttons, pamphlets, and pizza! Most importantly, though, we received a worthwhile experience participating in the political arena.



**Your Vote,  
Your Choice,  
Your Future.  
Take A Stand.  
Vote  
November 5th.**



# Props: My Home Away From Home



Beckie Anderson

I was still a high school senior when I was first introduced to **Props and Paint**, the drama club at CNR. As an over-nighter, I took in my first dose of frantic rehearsal time, frazzled nerves, and witnessed the pandemonium of forgetting lines three days before opening night and missing lighting cues over and over and over again.

I walked out of Romita Auditorium that night and swallowed hard. I had never been so scared in my life. To this day, I still cannot get enough of it.

In my two years at CNR, I have gone from being a wide-eyed freshman auditioning for my first college show to a bug-eyed junior producing my fifth. So, to all those would-be thespians or techies out there, I am going to tell it how it really is to be a member of Props and Paint.

First, a little background information. Props is a student-run organization in which the CNR student is most important. Our advisor is the **heaven-sent Fr. Bernard McMahon**, who has been serving in that position for the past 25 years. Props and Paint itself has been producing both plays and musicals at CNR since 1906, two years after the college was founded.

Being a member of the club is, without a doubt, the most enriching experience I have had so far at CNR. Some of my best friends are involved in Props and Paint. As a performer, I have learned more than I ever would in any drama class. Most importantly, with the help of Fr. McMahon, I have learned patience and to be more open-minded to the ideas of others.

Okay, so all that is nice. Now, here's the other half of the story. Props and Paint is an enormous commitment, both time-wise and emotionally. As a member of the club once said, "it's like a monster that sucks you in and never lets you go." Honestly, if you don't love it, you'll hate it.

Yet here is the point; you will love it. The enormous stress that comes from putting on a show is like nothing you could ever imagine. Once you feel it, you will never be able to live without it. Whether you are an actor sweating under the lights of the stage or the stage director sweating under the weight of your headset, there is nothing on earth that can compare to the jump your heart takes when you hear an audience's applause.

This fall, Props is producing "**Little Shop of Horrors**," a grim musical comedy with gigantic plants from outer space and singing dentists. Rehearsals have been underway for several weeks and I am extremely pleased to announce that everything is heading in the right direction. The cast is outstanding and never ceases to amaze me. Our **director, John Demicco**, is returning after working with us on "The Importance of Being Earnest" last semester.

As president and producer of Props this year, please indulge me and let me shamelessly plug the club. I encourage any CNR student to become involved with this semester's show. We are still looking for set builders, painters and artists, costume and make-up assistants, and running crew. We have meetings every Monday at 8:30 p.m in Romita Lounge and always welcome new members and whatever talents they may have to contribute. For those who are more comfortable as members of the audience, we have nine performances of "**Little Shop of Horrors**," **running November 8-17.**

So, is it stressful? Yes. Does it take up most of your time? Yes. But is it worth it? Without a doubt. I am fully on my way to becoming a raving lunatic, yet I would not have my few precious years at CNR spent any other way. Until the day I leave, **my home away from home will always be that little Romita stage.** And as trite as it may sound, the other members of Props will always be like my second family.

# CNR's New Gospel Choir

Roberta Thomas



This year, CNR has resurrected a group of spirited young women in our community. They will be singing the praises of the school year as the new Gospel Choir. The **Gospel Choir** was brought about from three organizations- **Black Student Union (BSU)**, with advisor Peggy Williams, Christian Fellowship, with Jill Murray, and Campus Ministry, with Sister Joan Garvey.

This new and vibrant group of women are under the direction of **Peggy Williams** who is the **BSU advisor and Maura Hall R.D.** She brings to the group a rich background in music. Peggy fell in love with music at the young age of eight. From then on she sang in her church choir and joined every Glee Club possible. She is an alumna of the Iona Gospel Choir. She performed in that choir for four years and enjoyed every moment. Being a part of the Gospel Choir at Iona helped make her college experience much more rewarding. As a result, she has decided to present CNR students with the joyous and spiritual experience of the choir.

"I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free..."



These are the words to the song "Why We Sing" by Kirk Franklin, which was one of the songs performed by the choir during their debut at the interfaith service on September 9, 1996. The words describe the essential point of having the Gospel Choir. It is a time of fel-

lowship with friends and to spread the joy and praise of being with one another.

"My mind is made up...I'm on my way up...I'm holding my head up; Oh just to be with my Lord...."

These were the words echoing throughout the chapel as the choir processed out of the interfaith service with unison clapping. The joy and spirit of the group continued long after the service. It was hard not to hum the song throughout the day, remembering the excitement of the

service.

CNR can look forward to many more **uplifting performances on Founders Day (October 22)**, and, also, next semester during black history month there will be a Gospel fest!

The choir hopes to spread their vocal talents to different churches in our community. In essence, the choir serves as a inter-religious church for people of different backgrounds to come together with one common goal-to SING!!!

## Top 15 Reasons Why: God Never Received Tenure At A School of Higher Learning

15. His office hours were infrequent and usually held on a mountain.
14. Although there were only ten requirements, most students failed his tests.
13. He expelled his first two students for learning.
12. Some say he had his son teach the class.
11. He rarely came to class; just told the students to read the Book.
10. When subjects didn't behave as predicted, he deleted them from the sample.
9. When one experiment went awry he tried to cover it up by drowning the subjects.
8. He never applied to the Ethics Board for permission to use human subjects.
7. The scientific community has had a hard time replicating his results.
6. His cooperative efforts have been quite limited.
5. It may be true that he created the world, but what has he done since then?
4. Some even doubt he wrote it himself.
3. It wasn't published in a refereed journal.
2. It had no references.
1. He had only one major publication.

## Friends

*Ese Akpofure*

Used to be tight  
closer than sisters or maybe twins  
Mama warned me it could happen  
Telling tales with my close, close friend  
Nights spent together telling  
Old Tom that he ain't gonna be cute.  
Days spent together plaiting  
Our hair trying to look fine.  
Mama warned me it could happen  
That sad day sitting cool by the fire place  
Midnight conversations talking about nothing  
Secret messages that really don't mean a thing  
She said "Be careful... respect your friends."  
But we're closer than sisters  
So it really was alright.  
Painting fingernails deep, deep red  
Wondering together who our Mr. Right's gonna be  
Then Old Tom opened his mouth  
Told a long sad tale about a friendship  
Confused me and my close, close friend  
And Mama said "Going to be alright... gonna be alright."  
Didn't stay to see the friendship get ruined  
Mama warned me it could happen  
Mama said... Mama said....  
And me and my friend, don't see no more  
And me and my friend, don't talk no more  
And me and my friend, ain't friends no more.  
Used to be my close, close friend  
Closer than sisters or maybe twins  
But it ain't so no more!

# Creative Corner

## Reflection Of Me

*Ese Akpofure*

Shades gray and blue by the river  
Me slowly taking my time to eat dinner  
I got your message in a silver bottle  
Watching the rive reflect images of me.

Memories escape me like the thoughts of yesterday  
But I remember when you cried for me on Saturday  
I wondered why you still good by me  
When I was dazzled by my own reflection.

My lines are not straight as they should be  
It shows I'm not as perfect as I'd like to be  
I have these quiet silent moods at night  
When I try and reflect on what I can be.

But I'm glad I have a friend like you  
Tender, sweet and beautiful too  
I know that you are always watching me  
Watching the silent reflections of Me.



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# Adonis and Aphrodite

Beckie Anderson

So just when the girl  
Thought she had everything  
All figured out,  
Enter boy.  
Boy-girl, girl-boy.  
Same face, familiar situation.  
"Didn't we know each other back when..."  
Smile, blah-blah-blah.  
The smiles and blah-blah's continue  
And the hair is occasionally flipped,  
A muscle is not-so-innocently flexed,  
But the girl knows that she can  
Never have the boy.  
Not for real,  
And certainly not the way she wants,  
Not the way they always whisper about,  
When they sit shoulder to shoulder,  
Having a moment.  
She also realizes that  
Everything she thought she'd  
Figured out about herself was wrong.  
Big blow for the girl,  
And by now she's pretty sick  
Of all the little ironies  
In her life.  
So what's a girl to do?  
What's the girl to do  
Except sit back and laugh?  
She laughs at herself  
And she laughs with the boy;  
She knows he won't be  
In her life for very much longer.  
No big tragedy,  
Just a small one.  
"You'll always be my Adonis,"  
Says the girl one day.  
"Who's that?"  
Asks the boy.  
With a roll of her eyes and a chuckle,  
She explains  
And he replies,  
"Well, you'll always be my Aphrodite."  
And they both smile at each other,  
Having one of their infamous moments.  
Then the moment's gone.  
Blah-blah-blah.

## Blackbird

Beckie Anderson

Four British lads once told us  
To learn to fly.  
But some one else  
(I'm not sure if he's any wiser)  
Told me to take my broken wings  
And learn to live with it.  
Seemed like strange advice  
To give to a dreamer.  
Then again, when was the last time  
Any one ever saw a happy dreamer?  
With clipped wings,  
All a person can ever really do  
Is dream anyway.  
I guess that's why suicide  
Is so popular among artist-types  
And most forty-something pilots  
Are all alcoholics.

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# Atlanta 1996!

Meagan Batchelder

Picture this, you are walking through the A&P one day and you happen to catch a glimpse of this flyer with 1996 OLYMPIC GAMES written all over it and it also happens to be free. So you pick one up. When you return home you discover that it is how to order tickets for the games. That is exactly what happened to me. I couldn't wait to order the tickets because it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. After a year and a half of waiting and arguing over travel plans, ("You would not believe how much it costs to rent a car here!") July 19 finally came. So my boyfriend and I began the journey. We arrived in Atlanta expecting there to be a mass of people, even worse than a crowded street in New York City, but it certainly was the opposite. In fact, the first day we decided to drive in (it couldn't be any worse than New York) and it turned out that the streets were empty; we found parking right away for only \$10.00! We were wandering around Atlanta doing some shopping, checking out the scene on the way to our first event, field hockey. I had really prepared for the blistering hot sun;

I had my sun-block and my hat, but it turned out that the media forgot to mention that it rains everyday. So we were with our bags and cameras (looking totally touristy) and it started to get cloudy. (No problem right?) We are then trying to find the field hockey venue but we were getting so lost and all of a sudden it starts to rain. Not a little sprinkle, or even a drizzle, but this unbelievably strong downpour. Of course we were away from any type of shelter, stuck in a street where we did not even know where we were. Finally we found this little alcove to duck into until the rain slowed down. We did finally make it. The rest of the trip turned out better. I was then prepared for the rain.

My favorite part of the trip was the people. At every venue we would meet friendly people from all over the country: Minnesota, Washington, Georgia,

etc. It was funny, they all had the same impression of New Yorkers: rude, loud, and aggressive. All in all I would say it was a wonderful experience, a little scary after the bomb went off but definitely memorable. In fact, we are making plans to go to Sydney for the 2000 games. Go USA!



"DOCTOR, I FEEL SO INADEQUATE \_ I \_ I DON'T HAVE A WEB SITE \_ I \_"